SANTA ROSA AG SHEET

May – June 2003

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 29…….**Finding Money in the Woods**
Paxton, FL – See Enclosed Flyer

June 3…….**Natural Resources Field Day**
WFREC – Jay
Registration $20.00 by May 25th
(850-983-5216)

June 4…….**Cotton Scout School and Peanut Scout Review**
Jay Community Center, Jay
See Enclosed Flyer

June 18…….**Gulf Coast Turfgrass Expo and Field Day**
WFREC – Jay
Registration $25.00 by June 13th
(850-983-5216)

June 24…….**Weed Science Field Day**
WFREC – Jay - See Enclosed Flyer

September 5…….**Row Crop Field Day**
WFREC – Jay

IN THIS ISSUE

WHEN DO I NEED A FOLIAR INSECTICIDE FOR THRIPS ON SEEDLING COTTON?

Thrips are an annual pest of seedling cotton and most growers utilize a preventive treatment at planting for control of these pests. However, some fields may also need a foliar insecticide treatment for additional protection. Fields should be scouted at least once a week for early season thrips. Seedlings are vulnerable to thrips attack until plants reach the 5-leaf stage and are growing rapidly. The threshold for thrips is 2-3 thrips per plant. Treatment will definitely be needed on fields where immature or wingless thrips are observed at threshold levels. The presence of immature thrips suggests the preventive treatment is failing. Damage from thrips includes crinkled and distorted leaves, delays in maturity, plant stunting, and potentially loss of apical dominance or stand loss.

Source: Roberts, The University of Georgia, Georgia Cotton, April 23, 2003

WATCH GRASSHOPPERS IN REDUCED-TILLAGE COTTON SYSTEMS

Grasshoppers have been an emerging pest, primarily in conservation tillage systems, for the past 4 to 5 springs. Only time will tell what the 2003 situation will be like. As of early April, high numbers have been reported from only one field. There is some likelihood that we could see a reduced problem this spring due to the wetter than usual fall and winter.

Grasshoppers emerge during the months of April, May, and June from eggs deposited in clusters in the soil the previous fall. Newly hatched nymphs are white but exposure to sunlight turns them the distinctive brown color shortly thereafter. Nymphs feed and grow for 35 or more days before becoming adults. Grasshoppers are much easier to control in the nymphal stage. Lower labeled rates of acephate (Orthene), Lorsban, Bidrin and pyrethroids will control the nymphs. Higher rates of these same materials will be required to give acceptable control of the adult stage later in the spring. Dimilin will give suppression of the nymphs and long residual to help with adults. No established threshold is available. Controls should be based on experiences the past few seasons and the stage or size of the cotton. Grasshoppers only damage cotton by causing stand losses up until about the fifth true leaf stage.

Source: R. Smith, Alabama Cooperative Extension, Alabama Cotton Picksack Newsletter, April 2003

COTTON NITROGEN MANAGEMENT

Nitrogen is probably the most important fertilizer used on cotton, yet it is the most difficult to manage. Low N rates can reduce yield and quality while excessive N rates can cause rank growth, boll rot, delayed maturity, difficult defoliation, and

poor quality and yield. Total N rates for cotton should be based on soil type, previous crop, growth history, and yield potential. Base N rates recommended by the UGA Soil Testing Lab according to yield goals are as follows:

Yield Goal (lb lint/A)	Recommended N Rate (lb N/A)
750	60
1000	75
1250	90
1500	105

These N rates should then be adjusted according to other factors. For example:

Increase N rate by 25% if:
Deep sandy soil
Cotton following cotton
History of inadequate stalk growth

Decrease N rate by 25% if:
Cotton following peanuts or soybeans
Cotton following good stands of winter legumes such as clover or vetch
History of rank or excessive vegetative growth

Yield goals should always be realistic, preferably based on past production records. For N rates above 100 lb/A, cotton should be highly managed in terms of insect control, plant height, and boron fertilization. Total N rates above 120 lb/A should only be needed on deep sands or in special cases of history of inadequate stalk growth or where excessive leaching has occurred. The N rates for the 1250 and 1500 lb lint/A yield goals assume irrigation.

The total N rate should always be applied in split applications. Apply 1/4 to 1/3 of the recommended N at planting and the remainder at sidedress. The preplant or at planting N application is critical for getting the crop off to a good start and ensuring adequate N nutrition prior to side-dressing. Sidedress N between first square and first bloom depending on growth and color (toward first square if slow growing and pale green, toward first bloom if rapid growth and dark green). A portion of the sidedress N can also be applied as foliar treatments or through irrigation systems.

Source: The University of Georgia 2003 Cotton Production Guide

BUYER BEWARE - TELEMARKETERS ARE IN THE AG BUSINESS TOO!

It happens every year, generally in the spring, but it can happen at any time. An unsuspecting grower gets a phone call and is presented with a ‘wonder’ product that is his or her answer to weed control. The product name is often coded; something like SP124, SM409, etc., etc. This past week SK142 was a product

name brought to my attention. These people who call are very good, and present a good argument and seem to know what they are talking about. They will often ask for a credit card number and will ship the product directly to you. In addition, the price sounds great.

The catch you ask? Snake Oil? Well here are a couple of things to make you scratch your head.
1) how come I never heard of it before?, not mentioned in grower meetings, etc.
2) why doesn't a distributor carry it?
3) if its so good, why is it so cheap?
4) what kind of a name is SK142?

Actually, the product is generally a legitimate herbicide, but not the wonder product you are led to believe. Remember that all pesticides have a twenty-year patent life and after that time, anyone can market the product, but must use a different trade name. So, the "wonder product" is an old herbicide with a new name. 2,4-D is a common material used in these marketing schemes. I was even asked about a wonder product for pecans. The marketing person claimed 4 years worth of bareground weed control under the trees. I checked with the agent, he checked and found out the firm was in Georgia but home base for the company was in Long Island, NY. They finally sent a product label and it was prometon. Prometon is the active ingredient in Pramitol, which has been used for years as a soil sterilant. In essence the grower would have gotten 4 years worth of weed control but all the pecan trees would have died from the prometon.

When someone gets a phone call of this type, the best thing to do is ask for specifics. Can you send (fax) a label? Do you have a web site? What is the active ingredient(s)? What is your EPA registration number? Also, ask for a phone number where they can be reached. In addition, if the product is 2,4-D or similar, are you really saving money? Remember that buying a pesticide over the phone has a lot of risks including purity or authenticity of the product, and lack of product support. Buyer Beware!

Source: G.E. MacDonald, University of Florida Agronomy Notes, April 2003

PEANUT DISEASE CONTROL

Initiation Of Spray Program For Leaf Spot Without Use Of Forecasting. --At the present time, no specific date can be given to start a spray program. However, certain guidelines should be helpful. Also, see Plant Protection Pointer No. 19 for determining the level of leaf spot in your field as it relates to yield. PPP No. 19 is useful for highly susceptible varieties.

1. Beginning at 30 days after planting or when night temperatures become 65°F or more, periodically walk through a representative portion of your peanut fields looking for a trace amount of peanut leaf spot. Early detection in conjunction with early spraying will make subsequent fungicide

applications more effective. Greater specificity on this point are presented in footnote 1 of Table 1.

2. Leaf spot will appear earlier when peanuts are not rotated with other crops. Double cropping is not considered an adequate rotation time interval.
3. Dry weather will retard leaf spot development. Conversely, wet weather aids leaf spot development.
4. Where a large acreage is involved and the fungicide is applied by ground equipment, begin your spray program early enough so that the entire acreage has been sprayed before leaf spot begins on the last part of the acreage sprayed. This is a judgment decision on your part based on your own past experience for those fields involved.
5. Peanuts planted prior to mid April will be exposed for a shorter period of time to leaf spot-favorable weather than peanuts planted at later dates (assuming the same age at harvest).

6. Peanut fields or those portions of a field next to a field planted in peanuts the previous year should be sprayed by the time they are 35 days old. It is common to see leaf spot begin on edges of fields next to a previous year's crop.

Chemical Control Of White Mold

Folicur 3.6F is labeled for use on peanuts to control white mold, leaf spot, CBR, rust and limb rot. Rates up to 7.2 fl.oz. per acre should be used. Three or four applications, spaced 12-14 days apart, should be used beginning 45 days after planting for CBR. For white mold, Folicur, Abound, and Moncut can be alternated during the mid portion of the season.

Abound 2.08 FL and Headline 2.09 are labeled for control of white mold, limb rot, and leaf spot. A limit of two applications/crop is allowed for Abound at 18.5 - 24.6 fl.oz./acre. For Headline 2.09 F, five applications/crop are allowed with a maximum of 15 fl oz/acre. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Alternating Abound, Folicur, Moncut, or Headline has been particularly effective for white mold. Abound has some activity against CBR.
Moncut 70 DF can be sprayed to control white mold. With ground equipment, apply 2-4 lbs/A at 60-70 days after planting or 2 lbs/A at 60 days after planting followed by a second application of 2 lbs/A at 90 days after planting. If limb rot is also present, the use of a broadcast application may be best. Moncut can be applied via aerial application or chemigation but a directed band spray with ground application is likely to be best. Moncut can be tank mixed with chlorothalonil.

When using Folicur, Abound, or Moncut for suppression of white mold apply them in a 20" band along the center of the row. If suppression of limb rot is needed, use a broadcast application.

Use of an early pegging time (45-60 days after planting) treatment of Lorsban 15G has suppressed white mold and increased yields. It has added benefits because it is reasonable in cost and is effective for lesser corn stalk borer control. The rate for Lorsban 15G is 15 oz./1000 foot of row (13.3 lb./A for 36" row centers). Apply Lorsban in a 6 to 12 inch band centered on the row. Do not make more than 1 application/year or use within 21 days of harvest. See label for restrictions. Do not apply to wet foliage. Do not throw dirt on the base of the plant when cultivating. Do not incorporate granules into the soil as the white mold fungus is active at the soil surface and that is where the granules need to be placed.

Control Of Cylindrocladium Black Rot (CBR)

At the present time, CBR is difficult to control. The varieties Hull, C99R, Carver, NC 12C, Southern Runner, Georgia Green, and FL MDR 98 have small levels of resistance to CBR. Preplant fumigation with metam sodium-containing products (Vapam) or chloropicrin has been used somewhat successfully in North Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia.

CBR has been suppressed in field tests with sprays of Folicur 3.6F. Three or four sprays of Folicur spaced 14 days apart, beginning when the peanuts are 45 days old, have reduced CBR. The spray program with Folicur 3.6F for suppression of white mold would be advantageous for suppression of CBR. Recently, we have acquired some suppression of CBR with Abound 2.08F.

Peg Strength

Application of Topsin at ½ lb./acre at 7-10 days before harvest seems to confer greater peg strength.

Source: T. Kucharek, UF/IFAS Extension Plant Pathology Report No. 12, December 2002

TABLE 4. FUNGICIDES FOR SUPPRESSING PEANUT DISEASES

FUNGICIDE[1]	DISEASES CONTROLLED	MAXIMUM RATE/ACRE[2]	LIMITATIONS	REENTRY INTERVAL DAYS
Equus, Echo 720 or Chloronil 720 6 FLs	Leaf spot & rust	1 1/2 pts.	Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Do not graze or feed treated vines, hay or hulls to livestock	2
Bravo Weather Stik 6 FL	Leaf spot & rust	1 1/2 pts	Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Do not use treated crop for livestock feed.	2
Echo 90 DF	Leaf spot & Rust	1.2 lbs	Same as Equus	2
Blueshield, Champion, Kocide 101, Kocide 61.4 DF, or Basicop 53 WP	Leaf spot	1 1/2-3 lbs.	No time limitations	1
Kocide 2.4 LF, Champ Formula 2 FL, 3 LB Copper Flowable.	Leaf spot	2-4 pts.	No time limitations	1
Dithane 75 DF Rainshield, Dithane M-45WP, Manzate DF, Penncozeb 80 WP, Penncozeb 75 DF, or Manzate 80 WP	Rust & Leaf spot	2 lbs.	Do not apply within 14 days of harvest or graze or feed vines to livestock. Limit is 12.8 lb a.i./crop.	1
Bravo Ultrex 82.5 WDG	Rust & Leaf spot	1.4 lbs.	Same as Equus	2
Cuprofix 36.9 WP	Leaf spot	2-4 lbs	No time limitations	1
Kocide 2000 53.8 DF	Leaf spot	2.25 lbs.	No time limitations	1
Ten Cop 5E	Leaf spot	4 pts.	No time limitations	2
Dithane F45 FL	Rust & Leaf spot	1.7 qts.	Same as Dithane 75DF Limit is 12.8 qts./crop	1
Echo 500 or Bravo 500	Leaf spot, rust, & limb rot	2 1/8 pts.	Same as Equus	2
Bravo S	Leaf spot & Rust	4 1/2 pts.	Same as Equus	2
Moncut 70DF	White mold, limb rot	2.86 lbs if one appl./ crop is used or 1.43 lbs if 2 appl./crop is used.	2.86 lb limit/crop. Do not apply within 40 days of harvest.	12 hrs.
Folicur 3.6F [5,]	Leaf spot, Rust, Limb rot, White mold, CBR	7.2 fl. oz.	Aerial application prohibited. A maximum of 28.8 fl. oz. is allowed per crop. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Do not feed hay or threshing to livestock.	12 hrs.
Tilt/Bravo Table 4 continued	Leaf spot	1 twin pack treats 10 acres	Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Limit is 16 fl oz/A. Do not use treated crop for livestock feed.	2

FUNGICIDE[1]	DISEASES CONTROLLED	MAXIMUM RATE/ACRE[2]	LIMITATIONS	REENTRY INTERVAL DAYS
Sulfur[3] Table 4 continued	Rust & Leaf spot	1 qt.	See label.	1
Tilt 3.6E[5]	Leaf spot	4 fl.oz.	Do not apply more than 16 fl.oz. per crop. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Do not use treated vines or nuts for livestock feed.	1
Abound 2.08 FL[5]	White mold, leaf spot, rust Aspergillus niger, CBR, & Rhizoctonia diseases	24.6 fl.oz.	Limit is 2 applications or 1.54 qts/A/year. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest. Do not use treated crop for livestock feed. Do not apply through irrigation system	12 hrs.
Headline 2.09 F	Leaf spot, rust, white mold, Rhizoctonia diseases	15 fl oz	Limit is 5 applications/crop or 75 fl oz/crop. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest and do not use treated crop for animal feed.	12 hrs
Stratego 250 EC	Leaf spot & rust	14 fl oz	Limit is 6 appl./crop and do not make more than 2 consecutive applications. Do not apply within 14 days of harvest	1
Topsin 70 WP	Leaf spot[6] & A.niger[4]	½ lb	Do not apply more than 4.35 lb/A/season. Do not use treated crop for livestock feed.	12 hrs

See page 16 for footnotes. Table 4 continued on next page

Table 4 continued

1. Begin applications no later than at the first sign of disease. For varieties that mature earlier than Georgia Green, begin spray program when peanuts are 25 days old but not earlier than the third week of May.
2. Rate/Acre is for a broadcast acre but the entire rate can be directed (directed spray) at the existing canopy even if vine coverage of ground is not complete. With aerial application, broadcast rates are always applied in a broadcast manner. Rates below maximum rates can be used and are often suggested on the label.
3. Addition of a flowable sulfur (1 qt/A) enhances control of leaf spot and aids in the control of rust. Trade names include: That, Microflo, Enduro, Supersol, Sulfur 6L, Microthiol, Super Six and others. When rust appears shorten spray intervals so they do not exceed 10 days.
4. Not listed on label.
5. This product could become ineffective with continued use due to development of resistance by the fungal pathogens. To delay or offset such an occurrence, this product should be used in conjunction with a broad spectrum fungicide such as chlorothalonil or mancozeb.
6. Resistance to Topsin exists.